

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Schroder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with all members present except Vice Mayor Ross, who arrived shortly after roll call.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Comments are limited only to items listed under closed session).

There being no comments made, the Council adjourned to the City Manager's Office.

CLOSED SESSION (adjourn to City Manager's Office)

A. Closed Session Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.95:

LIABILITY CLAIM

Claimants: Sandra Zwemmer and Cherie Washburn

Agency claimed against: City of Martinez

RECONVENE - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL

Mayor Schroder reconvened the meeting at 7:00 pm. in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California, 94553.

PRESENT: AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Debbie McKillop, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

EXCUSED: None.

ABSENT: None.

PRESENTATION(S)

A. Swearing in of Police Officer Javon Sanders, Reserve Police Officers Gregory Gamble and Angel Cesar Ramos.

Interim Chief Eric Ghisletta described the officers' background. The swearing in was performed by City Clerk Gary Hernandez. Officer Sanders was pinned by his daughter Mikaela, Officer Gamble was pinned by his father Steve, and Officer Ramos was pinned by his wife Cassandra.

The City Council expressed their congratulations.

PUBLIC COMMENT (COMPLETE SPEAKER CARD AND GIVE TO CLERK)

Reserved only for those requesting to speak on items not listed on the Agenda.

Frances Sturtevant, Crossing Guard at Morello Park Elementary, requested that the Traffic Safety Committee review safety concerns on Morello and consider synchronizing street lights at the crosswalk, adding blinking lights on the crosswalks and more signage. Mayor Schroder referred the matter to the Traffic Safety Committee.

Bill Nichols objected to Councilmember Avila Farias' comments toward Tim Platt regarding the perceived conflict of interest with respect to Pine Meadow. He also questioned the ethics of the four Councilmembers who received campaign contributions from the Pine Meadow developer and voted in favor of the project. He supports the referendum to put Pine Meadow to a vote of the people.

Gary Freitas encouraged the public to listen to those with knowledge and expertise. He also gave his support to Eric Ghisletta for Chief. He congratulated the elected Councilmembers and thanked Mike Alford for being respectful during the election.

Tom Lewis, Shell Oil employee, asked for the Council's support in United Steelworkers Local #5's negotiations regarding civil rights and fire safety, including the creation of a permanent fire crew.

Mike Alford stated he respects Mr. Nichols but felt his remarks toward Councilmember Avila Farias were inaccurate and that the Council is not corrupt as some are alleging. He also stated that he does not have a problem with Gary Freitas.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Motion waiving reading of text of all Resolutions and Ordinances.
 - 1. Motion rejecting Claim against the City by Amir Saadi, #14-20. [M.Cabral]
 - 2. Motion approving Check Reconciliation Register dated 01/22/15. [C.Spinella/2.1.1]
 - 5. Measure WW Park Bond Applications: [T.Tucker/3.4.01&7.2.09&11.03.13]
- A. Resolution No. 011-15 authorizing City to apply for local grant funds from the East Bay Regional Park District under Measure WW Park Bond Extension for the Muir Heritage Land Trust acquisition of the 44 acres known as West Hills Farm.
- B. Resolution No. 012-15 authorizing City to apply for local grant funds from the East Bay Regional Park District under Measure WW Park Bond Extension for the Waterfront Park Renovation Project.

Mayor Schroder requested that Item #4 be removed from the calendar; and Councilmember DeLaney requested that Item #3 be pulled as well.

Mayor Schroder opened Items #A, #1, #2 and Items #5A and B for public comment, with no one coming forward.

On motion by Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, seconded by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, to approve Item #A, Items #1, #2 and Items #5 A and B of the Consent Calendar. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Debbie McKillop, Councilmember; Mark Ross, Vice Mayor; Rob Schroder, Mayor.

3. Motion adopting Ordinance No. 1383 rezoning 25.9 acre parcel located at 451 Vine Hill Way from M-OS/RF (Mixed Use Open Space/Recreational Facilities) to R-7.5/PUD Overlay (Family Residential, minimum 7,500 square feet per dwelling unit/planned development overlay). [D.Tasini/9.3.12]

Mayor Schroder opened Item #3 for public comment.

Gary Freitas commented on the need to allow things to move forward and change and to allow people to make use of their property.

Richard Verrilli stated that Councilmember DeLaney should have explained why she was pulling the Item before public comment, so the public could respond to her position.

Mike Alford commented that the public should stop holding up projects and allow people to use their property in ways that will benefit the City.

Mayor Schroder closed public comment on the Item.

On motion by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, seconded by Debbie McKillop, Councilmember, to approve Ordinance No. 1383 rezoning 25.9 acre parcel located at 451 Vine Hill Way from M-OS/RF (Mixed Use Open Space/Recreational Facilities) to R-7.5/PUD Overlay (Family Residential, minimum 7,500 square feet per dwelling unit/planned development overlay). Motion passed 4 - 1. Yes: AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Debbie McKillop, Councilmember; Mark Ross, Vice Mayor; Rob Schroder, Mayor. No: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember.

4. Motion to approve the appointment of a new City Manager, and approve the City Manager employment agreement; and authorize the Mayor to execute same. [17.00.01]

Mayor Schroder stated that the City has been without a permanent City Manager since October 2013. He thanked Alan Shear, Interim City Manager, for his great work; Anna Gwyn Simpson, who was Acting City Manager for 6 months, and Jim Jakel, who continues to assist the City on a consulting basis. He introduced Rob Braulik, future City Manager, who is currently the City Manager for the Town of Ross. Mayor Schroder provided a brief overview of his background.

Mr. Braulik expressed his appreciation to the Council and stated he looks forward to coming to Martinez.

On motion by Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, seconded by Mark Ross, Vice Mayor, to approve appointment of a new City Manager, and approve the City Manager employment agreement and authorize the Mayor to execute same. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Debbie McKillop, Councilmember; Mark Ross, Vice Mayor; Rob Schroder, Mayor.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

CITY MANAGER

6. Consider a resolution authorizing mid-year budget adjustments for Fiscal Year 2014-15.

Acting City Manager Alan Shear presented the staff report. He reviewed the budget process and explained the proposed adjustments.

Councilmember Avila Farias, asked what was included in the miscellaneous items causing the increase in the public works budget. Cathy Spinella, Finance Manager, stated it was for library maintenance, unmet liability, and liability insurance. Councilmember Avila Farias asked if the budget included repairs to the train depot. Mr. Shear stated the deferred maintenance funds could be used for that purpose, if the Council approved a project. Deputy Director of Public Works Don Salts stated staff could look into it.

Councilmember Lara DeLaney asked about the purpose of the safety netting at the pool, which Ms. Spinella explained. Councilmember DeLaney asked if the trend of decreased advertising revenue was expected to continue. Mr. Shear stated the short-term adjustment was expected to be enough for now. He stated staff is working to reverse the trend. Councilmember DeLaney noted there were funds in the housing fund, but the Council had not yet developed a policy for using them. She suggested that be addressed in the near future. Councilmember DeLaney thanked Mr. Shear for the report.

Mayor Schroder opened the Item for public comment.

Richard Verilli asked if the City's liability coverage had changed or if it was just a price increase. Mayor Schroder stated the premium and deductible had both increased.

Seeing no further speakers, Mayor Schroder closed public comment on the Item.

Councilmember Lara DeLaney asked if the Council's vote was needed to authorize the non-General Fund adjustments to the mitigation impact fees. Mr. Shear clarified that the resolution is for all adjustments.

On motion by Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, seconded by Mark Ross, Vice Mayor, to approve Resolution No. 013-15 authorizing mid-year budget adjustments for Fiscal Year 2014-15 as amended. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Debbie McKillop, Councilmember; Mark Ross, Vice Mayor; Rob Schroder, Mayor.

7. City Manager Comment(s)/Update(s).

Acting City Manager Alan Shear stated that the usage of the Amphitheater continues to increase. He reviewed four requests for usage over the next four to eight months.

CHIEF OF POLICE

8. Chief of Police Comment(s)/Update(s).

Interim Chief of Police Ghisletta stated that the City joined forces with the Cities of San Ramon and Walnut Creek for major accidents and traffic enforcement. The City had its first Enforcement Day in Martinez a couple of weeks ago. In a four-hour period, 130 traffic stops were conducted around Pacheco Blvd, crosswalks in front of the hospital, 595 Center Ave, Morello, and the high complaint areas.

Chief Ghisletta further stated that the phone system in Dispatch was completed, and it will be able to receive 911 text messages.

Councilmember DeLaney asked how often the joint effort with other cities would be repeated, and if it could be extended to investigate the increase in car break-ins. Chief Ghisletta stated these efforts would be quarterly traffic only. He noted that the County had reinstated its theft suppression program and Martinez would be participating in it.

Vice Mayor Ross asked if the increase in theft could be attributable to technology, and Chief Ghisletta stated they are crimes of opportunity targeting unsecured vehicles. He noted the increase is area-wide.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND/OR AGENCIES

CITY COUNCIL

9. Council Subcommittee Reports.

Mayor Schroder stated that he did not believe that the Budget/Finance Subcommittee needed to report out on their meeting of January 27, 2015, since it was just discussed and approved in the mid-year budget.

Councilmember DeLaney and Vice Mayor Ross reported out on the Franchise/Public Infrastructure Subcommittee meeting held on February 3rd. The Subcommittee reviewed and discussed updates on current capital improvement projects in the areas of transportation, parks, water, and paving. Councilmember DeLaney suggested it would be beneficial for the entire Council to hear the updates and for progress to be communicated to the public. Vice Mayor Ross suggested a special meeting or community workshop devoted to infrastructure project updates.

Councilmember Avila Farias asked if the intersection of Vine Hill and Pleasant Hill Road would be improved to mitigate the impact of new developments in the area, and Vice Mayor Ross said that was discussed.

10. City Council Comments.

Councilmember Debbie McKillop reported that she attended the League of California Cities "New Mayors and City Council Training" in Sacramento from January 14th through the 16th. She indicated that there was a full agenda each day and it was very informative. Councilmember McKillop stated that she felt very welcomed and educated, and it was a great experience.

Councilmember AnaMarie Avila Farias reported that she attended the Housing and Community and Economic Development Policy Committee for the League of California Cities; she also attended the East Bay Division meeting and was appointed to the Board of Directors. At the League's Policy Committee meeting, one of the main items was a presentation from Andrews Strokfeild, Deputy of Legislation and Governmental Affairs of the Governor's Office. She noted that Mayor Tim Grayson and she had a chance to speak, and there may be some new funding and opportunities to work with the League on the Marina and economic development.

Councilmember Avila Farias announced that she was voted in as an Assembly District Delegate for the Democratic Party and she was honored to represent Martinez residents. Lastly, Mayor Schroder and she met with Mike Thompson to discuss the Marina and felt there is a lot of support and momentum. She welcomed the new City Manager and stated it is great timing for him.

Vice Mayor Ross welcomed the new City Manager and stated that he will be a great addition to the team.

Councilmember Lara DeLaney announced the Wine and Chocolate Stroll from 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and an Exhibit Saturday called Arrows Four at the old McDonald's, both this Saturday. She also announced the "Martinez Memories" Film Festival at the library at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, February 10th, 17th, and 24th, which is being hosted by the Martinez Historical Society.

Councilmember DeLaney reported out on her attendance at the January 15th League of California Cities Employee Relations Committee. She provided a copy of the meeting highlights to the Clerk. She indicated that the meeting began with an update of the State's budget, which seems to be in good condition; however, there are significant needs in matters of transportation, streets, and roads. Transportation funding and medical marijuana will be major issues in the near future at the state and federal level. The Employee Relations Committee meeting agenda focused mainly on labor relations, pension issues and other topics.

Mayor Rob Schroder announced the St. Baldrick's Foundation Shave Off on March 15th in Martinez, sponsored by Creek Monkey Tap House and Citrus Salon. It will be held at Main Street Plaza from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He stated he would be participating and would have his hair dyed green on Monday, March 9th at 4:30 p.m. at Citrus Salon, and he would have it shaved off at the Shave Off around noon on March 15th. Mayor Schroder stated that he is hoping to raise \$1,500. In response to information provided by Rich Verilli, Mayor Schroder announced the crab feed at the Senior Center on February 7th.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:17 p.m. to a Regular Council Meeting on February 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California.

Approved by the City Council,

Rob Schroder, Mayor

Mercy G. Cabral, Deputy City Clerk – 3/18/15